

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 AID-05 DPW-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 OMB-01 EB-07 TRSE-00

XMB-02 /102 W

----- 125444

R 270150Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7254

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JAKARTA 3598

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, EAID, PFOR, ID, VS

SUBJECT: JAKARTA PRESS ON AMBASSADOR'S CALL
ON FONMIN MALIK

REF: JAKARTA 3530 AND 3528

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. JAKARTA PRESS MARCH 26 CARRIES MODERATE COVERAGE OF
COMMENTS TO PRESS BY AMBASSADOR AND FONMIN MALIK FOLLOW-
ING MEETING MARCH 24 (REFTELS). COVERAGE MOSTLY BASED
ON ITEMS BY STATE NEWS SERVICE ANTARA; LEADING INDEPEND-
ENT DAILY KOMPAS CARRIED ITS OWN, MORE DETAILED REPORT.

2. ANTARA ITEM NOTED MALIK COMMENT THAT AMBASSADOR HAD
CONVEYED "BITTER NEWS" CONCERNING VIETNAM AND THAT HE
(MALIK) HAD "REMINDING" AMBASSADOR THAT SITUATION IN
SOUTH VIETNAM WAS DETERIORATING. KOMPAS SAID MALIK
NOTED HE HAD "CALLED UPON THE US TO FULFILL HER COMMIT-
MENTS TO THE PARTIES CONCERNED, " NOW THAT VIETNAM AND
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KHMER SITUATIONS "NO LONGER A GAME" BUT HAD DEVELOPED

INTO REAL WAR.

3. ARTICLES REPORTED MALIK STATEMENT THAT INDONESIA MIGHT WITHDRAW INDONESIAN ICCS UNITS TO JAKARTA IF SITUATION KEEPS WORSENING, BUT THAT EVEN UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, INDONESIA WOULD NOT WITHDRAW FROM ICCS BUT WOULD CONDUCT ICCS ACTIVITIES FROM JAKARTA. KOMPAS REPORTED MALIK STATEMENT THAT, IF NECESSARY, ALL INDONESIAN PERSONNEL COULD BE REMOVED FROM VIETNAM "WITHIN TEN HOURS."

4. RE IGGI AID AND US TRADE ACT, ANTARRA NOTED (AND KOMPAS FEATURED) AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS THAT IMPROVEMENT OF INDONESIA'S FINANCIAL SITUATION LIKELY TO AFFECT TERMS AND FORM OF IGGI AID, WITH PROJECT AID, EXPORT CREDITS, ETC., PROBABLY CONTINUING TO GROW AS PROPORTION OF TOTAL ASSISTANCE, AND AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENTS THAT INDONESIA HAD BEEN AMONG FIRST COUNTRIES TO REACT TO TRADE ACT RESTRICTIONS ON OPEC COUNTRIES AND THAT EXECUTIVE BRANCH APPROACHING CONGRESS IN EFFORT TO MODIFY TREATMENT CURRENTLY ACCORDED INDONESIA UNDER ACT. END UNCLASSIFIED

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5. COMMENT: WITH ALLOWANCE FOR USUAL MALIK STYLE, REPORTED MALIK COMMENTS GENERALLY SIMILAR IN TONE TO HIS PRIVATE STATEMENTS IN MEETING (REFTELS). REASONABLY FAITHFUL RENDERING OF AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS ON AID AND TRADE, PARTICULARLY BY INFLUENTIAL KOMPAS, SHOULD BE MARGINALLY HELPFUL IN INCREASING PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING HERE OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH POSITION ON US/INDONESIAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS. NEWSOM

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